

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to FIGS. 1 and 4. The replacement sheets, which include FIGS. 1 and 4, replace the original sheets including FIGS. 1 and 4, respectively. The changes incorporated in the replacement sheets are circled on the attached annotated copies of the original sheets.

Attachments: Replacement Sheets
Annotated Copies of Original Sheets

REMARKS

Claims 1-3 were pending in this application. Claims 1-3 have been amended to clarify the scope of the claimed invention. Of note, independent claim 3 has been rewritten to depend from independent claim 2. No new subject matter is believed to have been added by these amendments. Therefore, claims 1-3 remain in this application.

Drawing Objections

FIGS. 1 and 4 stand objected to for typographical errors. Applicant believes that new FIGS. 1 and 4 overcome the Examiner's objections. Reconsideration of these objections and approval of the new drawings are respectfully requested.

Specification Objections

The specification is objected to for various informalities that the Examiner has kindly pointed out to Applicant. Applicant believes that the amendments to the specification overcome the Examiner's objections. Reconsideration of these objections is respectfully requested.

35 U.S.C. §112 Rejections

Claims 1-3 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, for indefiniteness for the reasons set forth on pages 3-7 of the Office Action. Applicant believes that the amendments to the claims overcome the Examiner's indefinite rejections. Reconsideration of these rejections is respectfully requested.

35 U.S.C. §103 Rejections

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) for obviousness over U.S. Patent No. 7,124,197 to Ocepek et al. in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2005/0050353 to Thiele et al. Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) for obviousness over the Ocepek patent in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2001/0017857 to Matsukawa in view of U.S. Patent No. 7,093,030 to Henry et al. Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) for obviousness over the Ocepek patent in view of U.S. Patent No. 7,366,113 to Chandra et al.

Independent claims 1 and 2 have been amended to better qualify the novel and non-obvious features of the claimed invention. Specifically, claims 1 and 2 have been

amended to require that an IP collision decision module determines if *the number of ARP respond packets occurring by each IP exceeds a reference number set within a predefined time out period*, confirms the ARP packet as IP collision, and adds the ARP packet to a list if the number of ARP respond packets occurring by each IP exceeds the set reference number. The IP collision decision module also *determines IP collisions for all IPs*. In other words, the claimed IP collision decision module of the present invention *successively determines* whether IP collision for each IP has occurred or not *for all IPs*. Of note, the Matsukawa publication is directed to a method for detecting duplicate IP addresses for *only a target IP*. None of the prior art of record discloses Applicant's novel and non-obvious implementation of detecting IP collisions.

Claim 3 has been amended to depend from amended independent claim 2, thereby rendering the separate obviousness rejections of claim 3 as moot.

Based on the foregoing amendments to the claims, Applicant believes that the subject matter of amended independent claims 1 and 2 is not rendered obvious by the aforementioned references. Claim 3 depends from and adds further limitations to amended independent claim 2 and is believed to be patentable for the same reasons as independent claim 2.

CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, reconsideration of the rejections, allowance of pending claims 1-3, and approval of the revised drawings are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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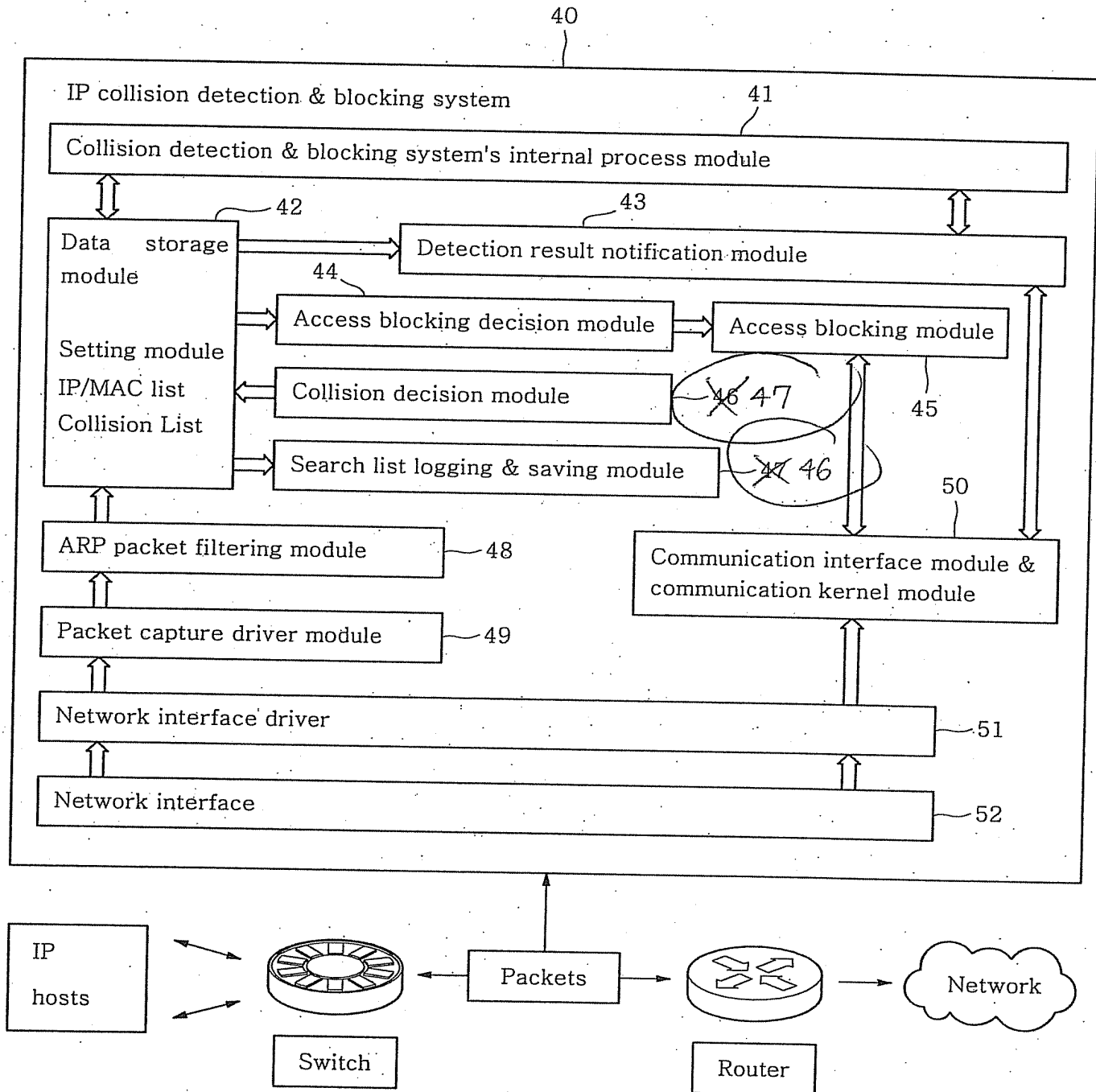


FIG. 1

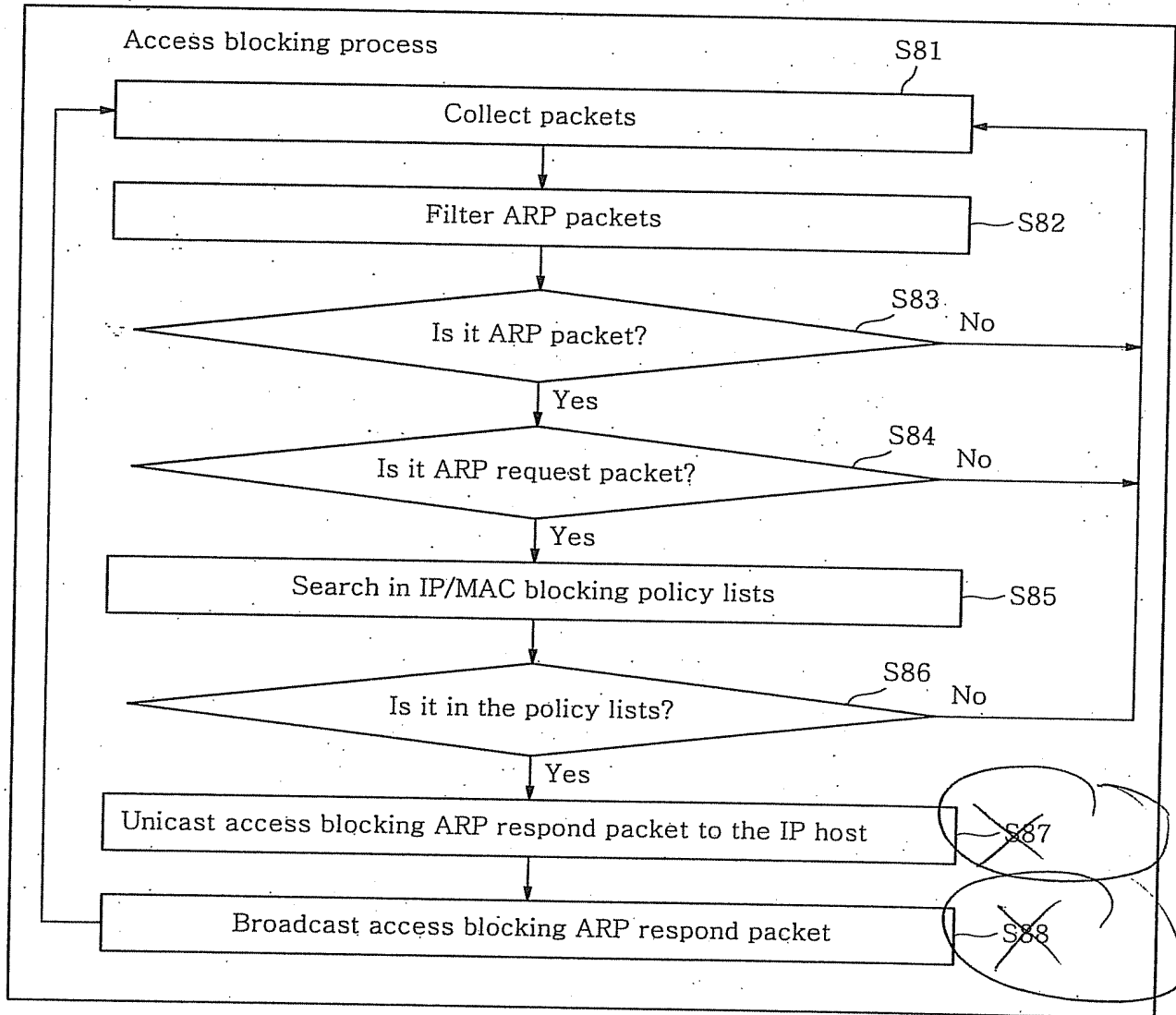


FIG. 4